ICANN website
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Feedback

TOP STORY

Schedule Now Available for the ICANN70 Virtual Community Forum

ICANN has released the **schedule** for the ICANN70 Community Forum, **22-25 March 2021**. Initially planned for Cancún, Mexico, the meeting will take place virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

ICANN 70
VIRTUAL COMMUNITY FORUM

Registration is required to view the schedule. Details and information about remote participation tools, including interpretation, can be found **here.** Important note: ICANN70 will be held in the Eastern Standard Time (UTC-5) time zone of Cancún.

Read **the announcement here**.

EDITORIAL

GAC Regional Members: Thank You for Joining Us

Daniel Fink, Senior Manager, Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE), Brazil

The Government Advisory Committee (GAC) is composed of appointed representatives of national governments and intergovernmental organizations. Together, GAC members provide important advice to ICANN on public policy aspects with regard to the Internet Domain Name System and are fundamental contributors to the multistakeholder model.

Policy contributions from GAC and the majority of duties from the ICANN community represent an incredible effort in foreseeing the best course of action for the Internet in the future. What is discussed today will take two, three, or more years to be implemented. Unfortunately, nowadays we are all required to attend urgent tasks and restrictions related to our health and safety, and I believe representatives from the GAC are also required, in a special way, to take care of ALL people in their countries.

That said, please join me in appreciating the work of public officials for giving their best, saving lives, and guiding us towards the restoration of normal activities. Still, on 3 March 2021, we met GAC regional members for preparatory talks and briefings about what would be discussed during the ICANN70 meeting with a great attendance from members and support staff. Thank you for taking care of us and the Internet.

⊘ EXPLORE NEW ICANN CONTENT

New ICANN Learn Course: ICANN Public Meetings for Newcomers

Is ICANN70 going to be your first ICANN Public Meeting? Have you attended an ICANN meeting before but weren't sure which sessions to attend or which groups to join? Are you unsure how to get involved in a remote meeting? If any of these are true, ICANN Learn has you covered!

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Enroll **here** in ICANN Public Meetings for Newcomers today. The course is free and open to all. It will introduce you to ICANN's mission and multistakeholder model, explain key terms, help you to locate groups and sessions that may interest you, and provide tips so that you can make the most of the meeting experience.

🔔 ICANN NEWS

ICANN71 to be Held as a Virtual Meeting

ICANN's Board of Directors has announced that ICANN71 will be held as a virtual Public Meeting due to the continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The ICANN71 Policy Forum was scheduled to be held in The Hague, Netherlands, from 14-17 June 2021. The meeting dates will remain the same.

Read the **Announcement here**.

Deadline to Apply for ICANN Leadership Positions Extended to 29 March

The 2021 Nominating Committee (NomCom) is inviting applicants for key leadership positions within ICANN, including:

- Three members of the ICANN Board of Directors
- Three regional representatives for the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) – one each representing the Africa region, Asia, Australia, and Pacific Islands region, and Latin America and Caribbean region

- Two members of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council – one each representing the Contracted Parties House and Non-Contracted Parties House
- One member of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council

The new deadline to submit the applications is **29 March 2021 at 23:59 Universal Coordinated Time (UTC).** Find more information on the positions and application process at the **NomCom webpage**.

Read the **Announcement here**.

Information Transparency Initiative Update: Project to Reach Milestone on 16 March
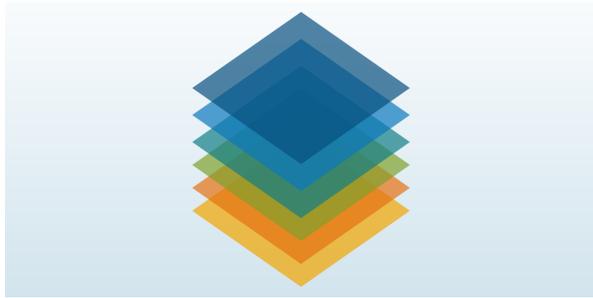
On 16 March 2021, the Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) team will replace some content types on the current **https://icann.org** with a new ITI search experience and launch a new content subscription feature.

Read more about this important update in ICANN President and CEO Göran Marby's **latest blog**. Learn how to sign up for content subscriptions in ICANN Senior Vice President, Global Communications, **Sally Newell Cohen's blog**.

LAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

CANTO successfully completes the 37th Annual General Meeting

The Caribbean Association of National Telecommunications Operators (CANTO) held its 37th Annual General Meeting (AGM37) on 8-9 February 2021, virtually. In the midst of reshaping the new age of emerging technology in the Caribbean region, all industries are driven to change or modify their business strategies and services to a new environment by enabling smart communities, cities, and nations, and to revolutionize and innovate cutting edge solutions to the networking challenges of today and tomorrow. Key stakeholders engaged in lively discussions on these themes at CANTO AGM37.

ICANN is an active participant of the Technology Trends working committee of CANTO.

View the agenda and learn more about this event **here**.

POLICY UPDATE

GNSO Council Approves New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Final Report

On 18 February 2021, the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council voted on the **Final Report** of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development

Process (PDP). Concluding five years of work, this working group put forward hundreds of affirmations, recommendations, and implementation guidance under 41 topics (collectively referred to as "outputs").

Only two outputs did not receive consensus or full consensus support from the working group. The GNSO Council unanimously approved all outputs except for those two. The GNSO Council also requested that the ICANN Board initiate an Operational Design Phase on the Final Report and that the ICANN org convene an Implementation Review Team to implement the outputs.

Learn more.

Expediting the Policy Proposals on Retirement of ccTLDs

The third Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Policy Development Process Working Group (ccPDP3) submitted its Interim Report to the Issue Manager for consideration by the ccNSO. The Issue Manager is now seeking Public Comment on the Interim Report.

This proceeding includes the proposed policy recommendations for the retirement of country code top-level domains (ccTLDs) and separation of ccPDP3 into two parts: part one, the retirement of ccTLDs; and part two, proposed policy recommendations for a review mechanism of decisions pertaining to the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs. If the separation receives support, the ccNSO decision process on the retirement policy will start in April 2021 without waiting for the completion of part two.

For more information, visit the Public Comment proceeding **here**.

GNSO Council Initiates PDP to Review Transfer Policy

On 18 February 2021, the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council initiated a two-phase Policy Development Process (PDP) to review the Transfer Policy.

This PDP is tasked to determine if changes to the policy are needed to improve the ease, security, and efficacy of inter-registrar and inter-registrant transfers.

After incorporating feedback received via **Public Comment**, the **Final Issue Report** recommends that the PDP address the following topics in sequence: Form of Authorization and AuthInfo Codes (Phase 1a); change of registrant (Phase 1b); transfer emergency action contact and reversing inter-registrar transfers, Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy, NACKing transfers, and ICANN-approved transfers (Phase 2).

The GNSO Council requested that the working group be convened as soon as possible after the adoption of the proposed PDP charter, incorporating PDP 3.0 improvements. **Learn more**.

ICANN Community Excellence Award 2021: Nominations Close on 29 March!

The nomination period for the ICANN Community Excellence Award 2021

closes in two weeks. Each year, the ICANN Community Excellence Award recognizes ICANN community members who substantively contribute to ICANN policy development and who are deeply invested in developing consensus-based solutions within the ICANN multistakeholder model.

Learn more about the **nomination process** and submit your nomination(s) **here**.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

Stephen Lee
Trinidad and Tobago

Stephen Lee is the co-founder and CEO of ArkiTechs Inc., an IT provider with offices in Florida, Trinidad and Tobago. He has over 25 years of experience in IT infrastructure design, implementation, and support for enterprises.

Stephen is one of the founding members of the Caribbean Network Operators Group (CaribNOG), a community of network operators dedicated to sharing technical information and experiences related to the management of information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure in the Caribbean region. Since its establishment in 2007, he served as CaribNOG's program coordinator. This role entails identifying community needs, collaborating with stakeholders to align the organization to these needs, and building relationships within the community and with partner institutions.

For over a decade, Stephen worked as an Advisor with the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) on infrastructure development and capacity building projects in the Caribbean region. As such, he is a contributor to Caribbean ICT policy development, government network infrastructure design, Internet Exchange Point proliferation, and ICT training programs.

MONTEVIDEO

La Casa de Internet de Latinoamérica y el Caribe
Rambla República de México 6125
11400 Montevideo, Uruguay

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